

attributed to the photo-multiplier crystal combination, it may possibly represent a lack of exact linearity in the crystal light output-energy relationship for low energies.

In Fig. 2(D) is shown the 29-keV x-ray of Xe, obtained with a somewhat larger gain setting of the linear amplifier. From the resolution of this low energy line (50 percent), and other considerations, it has been possible to reconstruct approximately the pulse-height scale in terms of the numbers of electrons collected from the cathode. It is interesting to note that the noise level rises rapidly only below pulse heights corresponding to 3 or 4 electrons collected by the first dynode (or approximately 5 keV on the calibration curve⁵).

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¹ R. W. Pringle, *Nature* **166**, 11 (1950). Pringle, Roulston, and Standil, *Phys. Rev.* **78**, 627 (1950). J. A. McIntyre and R. Hofstadter, *Phys. Rev.* **78**, 617 (1950). P. R. Bell and J. M. Cassidy, *Phys. Rev.* **79**, 173 (1950).

² R. D. Hill and J. W. Mihelich, *Phys. Rev.* **79**, 275 (1950).
³ These results are in agreement with observations obtained recently by one of us (S.S.) with a beta-ray spectrometer in the laboratory of Dr. J. A. Gray.

⁴ D. Saxon, *Phys. Rev.* **74**, 297 (1948).

⁵ Pringle, Roulston, and Taylor, *Rev. Sci. Inst.* **21**, 216 (1950).

The Gamma-Radiation of Ba¹³¹

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FOR determination of the energies of gamma-rays less abundant than the 496-keV gamma-ray of Ba¹³¹ barium nitrate was activated with the highest neutron flux available at the Oak Ridge National Laboratory. The gamma-radiation intensity of Ba¹³¹ received was about twice that of the previous activation. The barium was chemically purified and after disintegration of Ba¹³³ was studied with a thin-lens spectrometer. A broad increase in the counting rate of photo-electrons was observed in the range corresponding to 180 to 220 keV indicating the presence of several gamma-rays. Only two peaks were sufficiently strong to define clearly the photo-electron energies. These peaks are shown in Fig. 1. The separation of peaks indicates that they are K and L peaks of a single gamma-ray of 213.5 ± 2 keV. The energy values of this gamma-ray were calculated on the basis of averages, of several runs, for the K peak of 213.2 ± 1 keV and for the L peak of 213.8 ± 2 keV. The probable error was determined from the uncertainty in

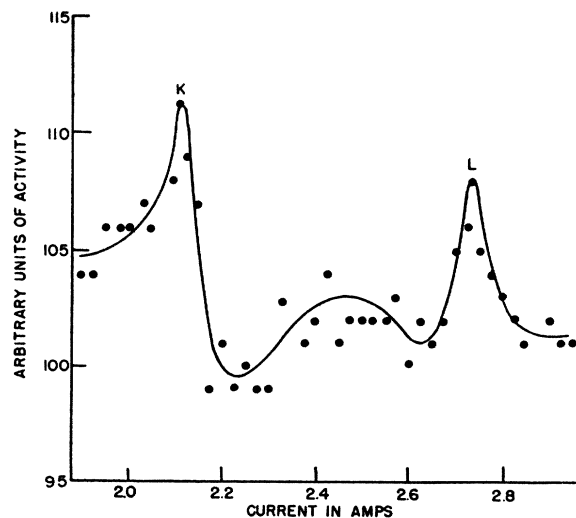


FIG. 1. Barium 131—K and L photo-electron peaks of 213.5 ± 2 -keV gamma-rays—lead radiator.

estimating exact peak positions. The 213.5-keV gamma-ray determined by the spectrometer probably corresponds to the previously reported gamma-ray of energy 220 ± 10 keV found by absorption measurements.¹

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¹ Yu. Gideon, and Kurbatov, *Phys. Rev.* **71**, 382 (1947).

A Method for Measuring Paramagnetic Absorption on Small Samples

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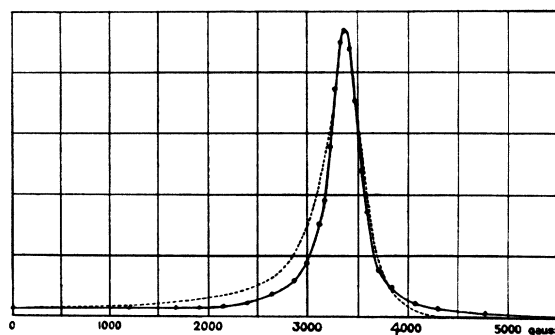
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WE have found it possible to make absorption measurements on very small samples of paramagnetic material.

In our apparatus, the two side arms of a magic tee are each terminated by a cavity. The cavity containing the sample is rectangular in shape and operates on the TE_{011} mode; the other one is a cylindrical TE_{011} resonator with means provided to vary its Q -factor within large limits, making it possible to set the resonance amplitude at the same value in both cavities. By tuning them to slightly different frequencies, and using a frequency sweep on the Klystron, we get the two resonance curves side by side on the oscilloscope. With a suitable vertical gain, amplitude comparison can thus be made quite accurately.

Using this apparatus, we found for the absorption of $MnSO_4 \cdot 4H_2O$ a value somewhat different from that given by Cummerow *et al.*¹ The shape of our curve (Fig. 1) seems to be



----- After Cummerow *et al.*

———— Present work

FIG. 1. Absorption curve of $MnSO_4 \cdot 4H_2O$.

closer to the theoretical curve of Frenkel; the normal paramagnetic susceptibility, χ , obtained from the integrated surface under the curve (0.25×10^{-25} cm³/ion) also fits better with direct measurement.

We would suggest as a possible explanation for this discrepancy that the resonant rotation of the polarization plane² in the cavity when it is filled with a paramagnetic salt will tend to change the Q -factor. Our method seems to be free from this objection, as we used only thin samples in the vicinity of the walls.

¹ Cummerow, Halliday, and Moore, *Phys. Rev.* **72**, 1233 (1947).

² This phenomenon was predicted theoretically by Kastler (*Comptes Rendus* **228**, 1640 (1949)) and has been observed experimentally by Ryter *et al.* (*Physica*, *Comptes Rendus de la Conférence sur le Magnétisme*, Amsterdam, 1950).